

THE GATEWAY

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IT WASN'T NEARLY AS ROMANTIC AS THIS LOOKS Emily Haines of Metric sings at Red's on Saturday night.

MATT FRESHNER

Ontario government promises tuition freeze

RIKA SZEKELY
Escalibur

TORONTO (CUP)—The Ontario Liberal government has confirmed its promise to freeze tuition fees for college and university students for the next academic year.

Linda Chiavresio, a spokesperson for the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, said the ministry has not worked out the details of the freeze as of yet.

She said Minister Mary Ann Chambers announced the freeze in response to repeated queries on the issue.

"She just reconfirmed that the gov-

"Students would not be in favour of a tuition freeze without the government putting in more funds to ensure quality."

LINDA CHIAVRESIO,
SPOKESPERSON, ONTARIO MINISTRY
OF TRAINING, COLLEGES AND
UNIVERSITIES

ernment remains committed to a tuition freeze," said Chiavresio. "The Liberal platform said that and we

remain committed to that."

In 2000, Ontario's Progressive Conservative government capped tuition hikes for regulated undergraduate programs at two per cent per year for five subsequent years. Fall 2004 would have been the last year to which the cap applied, but Chiavresio said the Liberal government will freeze tuition at Fall 2003 levels for next year.

It is not known whether or not the freeze will apply to deregulated programs, such as graduate studies and professional programs like law, where universities can increase fees as they choose without having to follow government mandates.

PLEASE SEE ONTARIO • PAGE 2

Maclean's rankings hit shelves amid controversy

A look at the annual ranking of Canadian postsecondary institutions

COSANNA PRESTON
Associate News Editor

As midterms came to a close this month, universities shared in students' stress as they braced for their annual assessment by *Maclean's* magazine.

Maclean's Universities 2003: *Measuring Excellence*, an *Insider's Guide* is the premier university report card in the country. Released each year, it ranks universities from

three different categories: primarily undergraduate, comprehensive, and doctoral. The rankings focus on everything from libraries to class sizes, institution's operating budgets, and more.

The annual *Maclean's* university rankings were released earlier this month with the same top-placing universities as last year: St. Francis Xavier for best primarily undergraduate institution, the University of Guelph for best comprehensive university, and the University of Toronto for best doc-

torial institution.

The University of Alberta moved up one spot from last year to number six in the doctoral category, and in the reputational survey, the U of T took top spot in the best overall category for the first time.

This year's edition also produced a new component: The rankings were slightly adjusted to allow for student retention to be calculated in the overall statistical ranking of the universities.

PLEASE SEE RANKINGS • PAGE 3

Proposed Bill 43 amendments meet with mixed reviews

CAITLIN CRAWSHAW
Associate News Editor

Amendments to Bill 43 were proposed last week by Alberta's Learning Ministry, altering aspects of the bill that had created considerable controversy among Alberta's postsecondary institutions.

Particularly controversial in the original bill was the removal of the current tuition cap and the authority given to the Learning Minister to dissolve student groups, including student governments.

In this second version of the province's Post-Secondary Learning Act, student governments will retain their sovereignty and the Learning Minister may only investigate student associations in the case of financial irregularities.

Some colleges and technical institutions will also be given degree-granting authority, in accordance with guidelines set out by the Campus Alberta Quality Council, to be established if the amended bill is passed after its third reading at the end of the month.

The proposed amendments also include a new tuition fee policy replacing the previous 30 per cent cap, which prevented tuition from composing more than 30 per cent of an institution's base operating budget.

This new policy requires schools below the 30 per cent point to raise tuition as they currently do: in accordance with the Alberta Consumer Price Index (CPI), to a maximum increase of \$276 in the 2004-2005 academic year. Those who have exceeded the 30 per cent point may raise tuition up to

CPI plus two per cent, to a maximum of five per cent per year.

The bill combines the Universities Act, the Colleges Act, and the Technical Institutes Act. According to Learning Minister Lyle Oberg, the government has rolled together these separate pieces of legislation for several reasons.

"We feel it sends a very powerful message that we're working together," he explained.

"Even the amendments don't make the bill a good thing."

MAT BRECHTEL,
SU PRESIDENT

"But also, if you ask why this bill is there, it is so we can increase access to the baccalaureate programs in those parts of the province that aren't Edmonton or Calgary, such as Medicine Hat or Grand Prairie where people right now have to come into Edmonton or Calgary to receive their degrees."

U of A Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein said the U of A will not be negatively affected by the allowance of colleges and technical institutions to grant undergraduate degrees.

"We the university think that there's plenty of demand to go around. We're not worried about competition; our goal here at the U of A is to work cooperatively with Grant MacEwan, NAIT, and anybody else," Amrhein said.

PLEASE SEE BILL 43 • PAGE 2



SHAWN BERNOW

HAPPY WITH THE WAY THINGS TURNED OUT U of A Provost Carl Amrhein.



10 Ah, I do say there chap, those Bears and Pandas had a smashing good time against those blokes from the Queen's city: Regina. Ah yes, 'twas a ripping good show, indeed.

Inside

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Outside

Tuesday Increasing cloudiness, post early for Christmas! High -5, Low -14
Wednesday Sun and cloud, 17th for parcels and packages! High -1, Low -14
Thursday Sunny, 20th for cards and letters; High -9, Low -16
Friday Cloud and sun, candle hands! Wood! High -8, Low -16
Source: Environment Canada



From the archives

At this time in 1970, it was reported that sometime in October Air Canada had cancelled five chartered flights to Cuba. The company's reasoning was that the unhealthy political environment in Canada at the time, particularly Quebec, made flights to Cuba dangerous. "Because of the political climate in the country it would be unhealthy to charter flights to Cuba. You couldn't take the chance that there might be revolutions abroad," said H. Rieppelle, a spokesman for Air Canada. Both Air Canada and Unions, the company who organized the charters, mutually agreed to cancel the flights indefinitely, leaving a freighter from the east coast as the only means of transportation from Canada to the island.

1970



13 Fact: Alberta has the second highest suicide rate in the country after Quebec. Fact: Kristine Ovarim writes about suicide prevention in today's feature.

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Apple Macintosh
computers, Hewlett-Packard Scanjet 3, and Linux
Auto-kiosk flattened cameras, and a Canon CanoScan
5400F optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used
for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images,
while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images.
Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are
burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing
press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights
of Times, Helvetica, Arial, and Verdana. The Gateway's
games of choice are EVE and The Legend of Zelda: A Link
to the Past.

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Will Chen, Dave Morgan, James "Bull" Johnson,
Kate Kovacs and the best damn news associates in the
world.

Legislation is 'fair, balanced,' says U of A administration

BILL 42 / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He explained that the U of A's main demand was that the overall reputation of baccalaureate degrees in the province not diminish.

Though not initially satisfied with the bill, the U of A is satisfied with the amendment, in which the quality of degrees will be ensured by a board of experts.

Ultimately, the U of A administration is satisfied with the entire bill as amended, according to Amrhein.

"I think it's a very fair, balanced piece of legislation. I hope it passes, because when it passes we're going to start talking to them about re-investing more money per student, and more funding for students. So it's an important piece because it sets the framework within which we all operate."

Students' Union President Matt Brechtel was far less enthusiastic, explaining that while the bill has amended some of the more troubling aspects, such as the ability of the Learning Ministry to arbitrarily dissolve student groups like the SU, the bill is hardly a good thing for students.

"Even the amendments don't make the bill a good thing," Brechtel said. He emphasized that the proposed tuition fee policy is not enough.

"Instead of there being an actual tuition cap, what there appears to be is a tuition cap without any way of

stopping tuition from going up. So ultimately, what's happened with that amendment is we've been given the illusion of having a cap without having anything more stable than what we had without it."

While the announcement of these amendments follow recent protests at postsecondary institutions across the province against Bill 43, Minister Oberg is adamant that they are not the product of these protests.

"The amendments were not made because of student protests, the amendments were made because of good open dialogue with the students' associations, and the majority of the amendments were done eight weeks ago," Oberg explained. "It's good, common-sense dialogue that won the day for students."

SU Vice-President (External) Chris Samuel was in staunch disagreement.

"I think our protests were effective. I think our entire campaign brought tremendous pressure upon the ministry, and it's my opinion that those changes would not have been made without that pressure being there," he said.

"I think by protesting, by bringing political pressure to the Minister, you're illustrating that he will lose support if certain things don't happen, and I think that students in a closed-door meeting with him could not have that done on their own."

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Barrie Tanner
(btanner@ualberta.ca)

THEIF STOPPED IN MEDS CI

On 24 November at about 2:30pm, a staff member called 5-0 to report seeing a man enter a lab in Medical Sciences and sift through a student's backpack which was left in the area. The suspect is described as a male with a black, shaggy beard wearing a brown leather jacket with sheepskin lining.

HEART ATTACK VICTIM NEAR EDUCATION

At 4:50pm on 23 November, Officers received a report of a man fallen on the ground in the east parking lot of Education. Officers arrived and found EMS already on scene. While Constables

started CPR, another EMS unit arrived, and it was soon determined the victim had suffered a sudden cardiac arrest. EMS transported the victim to hospital, where he passed away a short time later.

THERE ARE BETTER PLACES TO SLEEP

At about 2:30am on 23 November, Constables on patrol found a vehicle parked on the wrong side of a service road. They approached the vehicle and found a female sleeping in the driver's seat. They woke her up, and she said she was waiting for her friends. The officers sat her in the back of a patrol vehicle, and she became increasingly agitated. She allegedly had three beers over four hours and had an argument with her boyfriend. Her sobriety improved shortly, and agreed to drive her home. She was a staff member of the University.

SCUMBAGS PINCHED IN TORY

At about 9:30pm on 22 November,

ONTARIO / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Chiavrese did not address the issue of the deregulated programs directly.

In addition, Chiavrese could not say how the province planned to offset the increasing costs of postsecondary institutions, as increased funding through tuition is now not an option. She did say the government would be consulting both postsecondary institutions and students to resolve the issue.

"We'll be collaborating with our partners to find real and lasting solutions to how postsecondary education will be funded," said Chiavrese.

Meanwhile, Gary Brewer, Vice-President Finance and Administration at York University, said maintaining the current standard of service for students is a top priority for the university.

"We expect that any impact such a freeze would have on our revenues would be offset or compensated through provincial grants in order to maintain academic quality and standards," said Brewer.

Pablo Vivanco, Vice-President External for the York Federation of Students (YFS), said the quality of education must be maintained.

"Students would not be in favour of a tuition freeze without the government putting in more funds to ensure quality," said Vivanco, adding that when it comes to funding universities, Ontario has the second-worst track record in the country.

Vivanco is calling for a tuition freeze for all students, not just regulated undergraduate students.

"The Liberals promised students a fully-funded tuition freeze. That means tuition fees across the board and that includes deregulated fees and international students."

"The Liberals promised students a fully-funded tuition freeze. That means tuition fees across the board..."

PABLO VIVANCO,
VP EXTERNAL,
YORK FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

He also wants to see tuition waivers for the neediest ten per cent of students, as well as the re-regulation of deregulated programs.

The YFS will be working with a variety of groups to ensure a fairly funded tuition freeze, including the Young Liberals on campus and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

"Over the next two years, we look forward to working with the Ontario government to develop a comprehensive plan to rebuild accessible, affordable, high-quality postsecondary education," said Joel Duff, Ontario chairperson for CFS.

male student with a severe gash on his righting finger. He refused medical help, but was escorted regardless to emergency, where it was also discovered that he had likely fallen in the bathroom and hit his head. He allegedly punched a nurse while being treated before being moved to the trauma centre for his hand injury. He was left in Emergency overnight for evaluation. Several aspects of this case are still under investigation.

WATCH THOSE STAIRS!

At about noon on 20 November, a blue phone was activated by a man claiming someone had fallen down the stairs in the LRT terminal. Officers arrived to find a man on the stairs, face up, with his head facing down the stairs. He was conscious and said he was on eight to ten different medications. A bystander assisted with a c-spine, EMS and EFD were on scene, and paramedics transported the man to Emergency. He was not affiliated with the University.

STREETERS

The Heritage Classic hockey games were held at Commonwealth Stadium this weekend.

Did you watch the games?

Matthew
Mossey
Science IVRemon
Elyas
Science IIJohan
Ostrand
Computing
Science IVHania
Wojcikowsky
Human
Ecology IV

Yep, I did. I thought it was awesome. It was awesome for the city and it was awesome for hockey. It was great to see Gretzky and Messier back together and everyone in an Oilers uniform and the support the city gave it. The city is great for doing things like this. It gives us a good image. We always support our team no matter what, and there's no city like that in Canada.

I watched most of it at work. I thought it was awesome. It definitely benefited the city, because it was an international event and one of the biggest things in Edmonton for the year, I'd say. It would have been even better if the Oilers had won, but it was a wicked game anyway.

No, I didn't. I was studying. Maybe it benefited our city, because people get to know about it and maybe they'll come here. Perhaps it makes people more proud of our city, but I don't know how Edmontonians feel because I'm from Sweden.

I watched it in parts, because everyone I knew was watching it so I wanted to be part of the social event. I thought it was good, because I think everyone had a good energy about them on Saturday, and people who don't like hockey like me could appreciate the uniting that it did. I think it made people feel proud to live in Edmonton.

Compiled and photographed by Caitlin Crawshaw and Jesse Whitehead



Assessing the Maclean's rankings

PHOTOILLUSTRATION: SHAWN BENROW

RANKINGS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This means that in addition to the old components, how many students continue on to their second year at the institution is also a factor in how well the universities rate. The hope is that this measurement will demonstrate the community atmosphere of the university.

"More or less, it's a question of whether or not the student feels comfortable and feels it's an environment that they would like to return to," explained Ann Dowsett-Johnson, the author of the rankings.

The main concern about the rankings this year from the universities themselves seemed to be the reputational survey and general funding for the universities.

The reputational survey is a portion of the rankings that surveys approximately 12,000 individuals ranging from university officials to chief executive officers of prominent Canadian companies to high school guidance counsellors, among others. These people are asked to answer questions regarding their perceptions of the university in question.

This portion of the rankings has often been criticized in the past because of its poor response rate of only 13.2 per cent, but Dowsett-Johnson argues that that argument is less valid now more than ever. Though the response rate has not changed severely over the years, the amount of people surveyed has been significantly expanded from 1500 to 12,000.

"You are now talking a big number of people. There are national polling firms that make the front page of national newspapers with that kind of response rate and they're very happy to have those polls," coun-

tered Dowsett-Johnson.

"I don't accept the criticism at all."

However, Sean Riley, president of St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, argued that the range of the survey is not the problem anymore; he's more concerned with the depth.

"It's extremely difficult to give a good, better, best rating to institutions that you may know only superficially," argued Riley.

"I still think they need to fix a couple of things before, in my mind, it's going to be truly reflective of the underlying qualities of the institutions, but they're close..."

**CARL AMRHEIN,
U OF A PROVOST**

"Even for a university president, it is a little difficult to give an indepth evaluation from 4000 miles away based on often fairly impressionistic information."

Dowsett-Johnson was quick to reject that criticism, as were Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) at the U of A, and Robert Birgeau, president of the U of T, who both stated that the survey was much improved with the wider base and tended to reflect the true qualities of the schools listed.

"I think the reputation survey captures in a very interesting witness test how universities are doing. This is something you can't capture with

the other numbers," said Dowsett-Johnson.

There was no discussion with regards to funding. All three university officials and a very passionate Johnson emphasized that government funding is extremely lacking both provincially and federally.

Increased class sizes, tuition hikes, increased entrance averages and enrolment caps are all too-familiar trends today as universities struggle to keep up with decreasing government funding. Ontario universities in particular suffered in the rankings as they dealt with the double cohort, resulting from two graduating high school classes in June due to the elimination of grade 13. Out of 17 universities in Ontario, over half fell in the rankings and five remained stagnant, leaving a small majority to climb in position.

This funding crisis is not only apparent in Ontario. Riley admits the average entrance grade has gone up significantly at St. Francis Xavier over the last few years, and Dowsett-Johnson was especially concerned that the University of Victoria, Simon Fraser University, and the University of British Columbia all had to raise their entrance grades to 80 per cent for arts and science.

"The capacity isn't enough for the next class of high school students to get into university. What does that say about our culture? People say to me, 'at what point do you not let them into university?' Is it 60, 65? Is it 70? Is it 74? Frankly I don't think it should be 80 per cent," said Dowsett-Johnson.

With the funding crisis in mind, the universities were especially grateful for the rankings because, as Riley explained, the rankings provide a very important service that is often overlooked.

He said that Maclean's helps to focus media attention on university issues and keeps public pressure on the governments for more funding to keep tuition down and accessibility up.

Amrhein and Birgeau agreed and each had their individual gripes with the rankings specific to their university, but in the end all three officials acknowledged the importance of the rankings.

"I still think they need to fix a couple of things before, in my mind, it's going to be truly reflective of the underlying qualities of the institutions, but they're close and they keep trying and they keep evolving and that's good," said Amrhein.



PHOTOILLUSTRATION: SHAWN BENROW

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gateway student journalism society

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Applicants may not be a Society member, a member of the Gateway staff, a member of the U of A Students' Union Students' Council, an employee of the Students' Union, nor a member of the Students' Union Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board.

If you are interested, please submit a brief paragraph (no more than 400 words) regarding why you would be a good candidate for one of these positions to the Chair of the GSJS Board of Directors.

Information regarding the specifics of these positions can be found in the GSJS bylaws, Articles 9 and 10, posted on the GSJS website: <http://www.gatewayualberta.ca/gjsjs/>

For more information, or to submit an application, please contact the Chair of the GSJS Board of Directors through e-mail at gjsjs@gatewayualberta.ca or by telephone at 780-492-6669. Applications may also be dropped off in person at the Gateway offices in 3-04 SUB.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

JOB TITLE: Lounge Supervisor, Balmoral Lounge, Saville Sports Centre

DEPARTMENT: Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, Operations

POSITION TYPE: Full-time, 40 hours/week

Weekdays & weekends, shift work required
Appointment beginning January 1, 2004

SALARY: \$11.50 per hour, position, subject to be evaluated

OUTLINES: The Lounge Supervisor, Balmoral Lounge, Saville Sports Centre will assist the Manager, South Campus Facilities with part-time staff training and scheduling, product inventory management and daily operational bartending and service procedures and policies within the lounge. Candidates must be available to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends.

QUALIFICATIONS: Bartending or server experience and familiarity with a full-service food & beverage lounge environment is essential. Relevant industry training (i.e., server intervention, T.P.S.) should be noted. Applicants should have excellent communication and organizational skills as well as supervisory experience. An outgoing and friendly personality would be a positive attribute. Experience in a membership-based sport facility environment would be an asset. Specifically, a familiarity with Curling, Tennis and Gymnasium sports would be beneficial.

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Applications detailing your experience, relevant skills and hours of availability can be forwarded by 4:00 p.m. Monday, December 1, 2003 to:

Aaron Skillen
Manager, South Campus Facilities
Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Mailbox: W1-34 Van Vleet Centre (Dean's office)
Poste Field Address: 11601 68 Avenue
Poste Field Fax: 492-5667
E-mail: aaron.skillen@ualberta.ca

School board should not refuse funds

I'VE NEVER BEEN MUCH OF A GAMBLER. The thought of repetitively and constantly pushing quarters into a machine, pressing a button and then being told that neither my quarter, nor any of its shiny kin, are going to jump out in celebration of a win doesn't appeal to me in the least. And it doesn't appeal to the Westlock and Spruce Grove Catholic School Board either.

A few weeks ago, the school district banned funding-raising through bingo and casinos, and since Church policy statements suggest that three to five per cent of gamblers are compulsive, other Catholic school boards are likely to follow suit over the next few years. And while the moral implications of such a ban certainly live with Catholic Ideology, the practicality of the ban needs to be taken into account by policymakers, lest they doom the already cash-strapped school systems to even less curricular and extracurricular programming.

I went to Catholic school for my entire life right up until university, and even before the Klein government saw fit to pour gasoline on and take a lit match to education, the system was in dire need of outside funding. From basic education tools like computers and books, to little extras like equipment for cooking and industrial education classes, funds that the school system could not provide needed to be conjured in some way. That funding came from parents concerned enough for their children's education to volunteer their time to sell hotdogs or organize and work bingo and casinos.

Now, however, the school system is tying the hands of parents. While it may seem honourable for the school system to ban something that is exploitative, perhaps it should have done some research into other areas of funding before burning the gilded casino/bingo bridge to riches. The same amount of money cannot be raised on hotdog sales alone.

What other avenues of funding, that wouldn't violate Catholic morality, are available? Aside from spelling bee sponsorship, hotdog sales, and good old-fashioned alms-begging, it doesn't look very much like there are other sources of funding as lucrative as casino and bingo.

But perhaps this is precisely the direction the Catholic school system should be headed in; it's a difficult path, and the rewards at first might not seem very great, but given enough tenacity and persistence, maybe the school system's programs won't founder. This cross is theirs to bear, and if they choose the high, difficult road, then though their students might not have the resources to compete with the public school districts, they can at least say that they didn't accept dirty money, only a small percentage of which may be tainted with the sins of a few compulsive souls.

And they could say all of this from the grave, because shirking these funds, no matter how noble or moral it may be, could quite possibly lead to the death of the very system the Catholic school board purports to be attempting to save.

ADAM ROZENHART
Managing Editor

Beartracks ruins another life

THANKS, BEARTRACKS, for making me feel dumb again. With the advent of their recently "improved" system, I can now forget yet another password in this high-tech society.

I can deal with making passwords with letters, numbers, and even capitals. But the thought of making me put "special symbols," like pounds and dollar signs, or ampersands and asterisks? To make matters worse, I now have to change my password every 180 days.

Since I'd like to keep my sanity, I keep my visits to Beartracks at a bare minimum: maybe once or twice a semester. With this in mind, it looks like I'll be changing my password every other time I log in.

I just hope that with all those special characters, numbers, and upper- and lower-case letters, I won't be held responsible when I am unable to register next year because I've forgotten my password.

SHAWN BROWNE
Photo Editor

LETTERS

Brechtel isn't living up to his promise

In a letter to the editor in the 31 October issue of the Gateway ("The SU wants a tuition freeze"), Mat Brechtel wrote: "Your Students' Union will not agree to increase your tuition no matter what, despite the assertions made by others, such as Mike Hudema in his Gateway column. That is not on the table. That is not negotiable. Any tuition increase runs counter to the tuition freeze we are trying to get." These are fairly strong words, but true to form last SU Council meeting, Mat Brechtel put forward a motion to rescind the SU's tuition freeze policy and instead to go for the lowest possible tuition increase. The motion passed. A possible increase is now on the table and is now negotiable, despite the SU President's written assurances to the contrary.

In two months, the university will again raise our tuition and I am greatly concerned about the current lack of a tuition campaign. To date, not a single tuition banner, poster, pamphlet, or event has been done.

No visible effort has been made to get the message out about rising debt loads, out-of-reach tuition rates, and increased food bank lines. I feel like we have lost some very valuable time. The press would have gladly covered an event on the effects of differential tuition in September but no event was done.

Now despite the fact that the University rejected the 27 points the SU came up with on the multi-year proposal, Brechtel is prepared to give up our biggest public relations tool: the yearly tuition campaign.

Most observers agree that the annual tuition decision is our best opportunity to deliver our message and get the public on side. Last year, we weren't able to prevent the decision but we were successful in changing public opinion. Even Learning Minister Oberg acknowledges that the SU campaign against differential tuition was responsible for the fact that there was a 24 per cent drop in the number of Albertans who believe that university is accessible.

Every SU in recent memory has unsuccessfully argued for lesser increases and failed. The more the SU is seen as willing, even reluctantly, to accept maximum increases, the closer we get to full-user-pay system. When the SU rolls over, it dilutes our previous messages and supports the province's assertion that post-secondary education remains affordable. The province will continue to underfund the system because the students will take it. Equally important, the SU's inaction undermines the struggles of students and depoliticizes them because they come to accept that there is no one who will stand up for them.

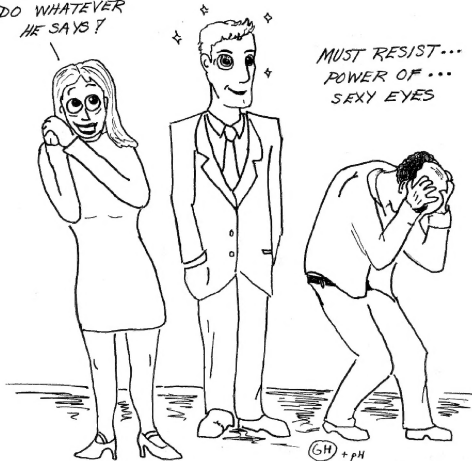
The SU needs to take a principled stand and fight for students. The President, in particular, needs to be reminded of the words he wrote just one month ago.

Please, Mr. Brechtel, tell the students what you have been doing the past seven months instead of getting the message out regarding tuition fees and debt loads.

MIKE HUDEMA
Law II

MAT BRECHTEL'S SECRET PLAN TO FIGHT BILL 43: MASS HYPNOSIS

HE'S SO DREAMY!
I'LL DO WHATEVER
HE SAYS!



MUST RESIST...
POWER OF...
SEXY EYES

Jesus wouldn't bribe his would-be followers

I just wanted to say that I'm a Christian and I completely agree with David Berry's comments in "Religious groups shouldn't advertise faith," (20 November).

In fact, I was once a part of the leadership of that particular "green" organization at another campus and I left because I didn't feel comfortable trying to trick people into the Kingdom of God. I thought that my time was better spent helping people rather than showing my beliefs down their throats and telling them it tasted good.

Jesus didn't use bribery and elaborate advertisements to get people to listen to what He had to say. What disgusted Him was the love and respect He showed people, especially the "underlings" of his society: lepers, tax collectors, prostitutes, etcetera.

ROBIN MACDOUGALL
Science IV

What's happened to you, David Berry?

What happened to you, David Berry? Where's the silly fun-loving guy I knew in high school? The one who read morning announcements, and poked fun at the teachers all in the name of a cheap laugh or two? It seems to me that the David Berry I knew has long departed from us. Now I'm not going to criticize your beliefs, David, but I do have one problem with the most recent opinion you wrote ("Religious groups shouldn't advertise faith," 20 November). What are you trying to say? You start out by saying in the

headline itself that you have a problem with what the people behind the "Green Figurine" campaign are doing, but end up stating that telling people about your faith isn't a bad thing. Sure, not everyone wants to hear about Jesus. So what? No one is forcing you to look at the posters, accept cookies or candy canes, or even attend the session at Myer Horowitz. Make up your mind, already! The only consistent point I'm getting from your article is that they could've spared a few trees if they hadn't shared their faith.

Letter writers Trevor Froehlich and Ryan Langness ("Berry's 'Green Figurine' criticism" unfounded," 20 November) are right, but I'll expand on their point by reminding you about the hundreds of thousands of Christians around the world who are persecuted each and every day for their faith. They know that by sharing their faith with others and telling them about the good news of Jesus Christ could get them thrown into prison, or even killed, but the joy they experience when they have been cleansed of their sins makes them want to share that joy with everyone else.

The same goes for the Christians here on campus, fellow students, such as yourself, Mr. Berry, can criticize what they believe and what they are doing to share those beliefs, but they won't be brought down. Nothing you say can stop them from sharing their faith.

As for you David—the man who used to announce our weekly Bible study sessions every morning for us—you have seriously taken a few steps down in my mind's eye. Apparently being able to write opinion columns for a newspaper has induced some need for self-education within you, much to the expense of those around you, including the

SU and the "Green Figurine" people.

Grow up David; this isn't high school anymore. Try writing an opinion column that has at least some semblance of tolerance of those around you.

MEGHAN MCDUGALL
Fine Arts I

Not everyone digs the "Green Figurine"

In response to the excerpt bashing David Berry's sacking of the "Green Figurine" in last week's edition of the Gateway ("Religious groups shouldn't advertise faith," 20 November): seriously guys, enough is enough.

I, as do many others, agree wholeheartedly with Berry (not only because he looks so much like Harry Potter) on his views on the tendency of religious groups to tastelessly whore out their views on God and faith; if you had a problem with what Berry said, then address that directly, and stop using it as an opportunity to tip-toe around the controversy of the subject and pollute the Gateway with your "Green Figurine" Gestapo propaganda.

Promote your views to the people who actually care about them. There's no need to get in the faces of the other 90 per cent of students who don't give a damn what you think. If it makes you feel any better, I've pretended to support your "cause" more than a few times just to get some free hot chocolate. I was hoping it would really be a good idea to put that picture of Charles Manson on the bottom, but I can settle for hot chocolate just as well.

PHIL MCREIVIS
Science I

KFC hardly a healthy alternative



SARAH
HANASY

What's better than an army of robot butlers programmed to aid you in your quest for supreme domination? Likely nothing, but a close second would be the news that, apparently, Kentucky Fried Chicken is now a "healthy alternative to fast food." But wait just a damn minute, isn't KFC itself considered fast food? Holy angio-plasty Batman, I think my heart just stopped!

Of course, I'm not the only one shocked over this new KFC ad campaign that promotes their products as part of a balanced diet. An American health-advocacy group has requested that the US Federal Trade Commission force the restaurant chain to pull television ads, stating that they contain deceptive advertising. Deceptive? No! KFC's never betrayed me in the past! When I wanted my meat with crispy, they came through for me with frying colors. When I wanted to eat food out of something normally designated for cleaning purposes—a bucket—I turned to them. And sometimes when I felt like, hey, maybe today I want to get my next seven months' worth of sodium intake into this one meal, there was no question in my books

"In the ads, briefly flashed disclaimers qualify these claims by stating that fried chicken is *not low in fat, cholesterol or sodium*. But the health-advocacy group says the disclaimers are 'virtually illegible.' So who do the big hens at the top of the KFC pecking order think they're fooling?"

who got the thumbs up.

Though somehow I still find it hard to believe that KFC would like me to "skinny down" by eating a retardedly limited selection of their merchandise. I visited their nutritional website, and as stated, only if I strip the chicken of its life-giving cocoon of succulent batter will I enjoy all the merriment of a person aming in her selve's craftiness. Otherwise, it's gonna be a good ol' 25 grams of fat in that piece of original recipe chicken thigh—nearly half a day's worth of fat gone in less than two minutes of orgasmic gace. That's like licking all of the icing off a cupcake, serving it on a pink dolly, and saying, "enjoy, fuckers!"

In the ads, briefly flashed disclaimers qualify these claims by stating that fried chicken is *not low in fat, cholesterol or sodium*. But the health-advocacy group says the disclaimers are "virtually illegible." So who do the big hens at the top of the KFC pecking order think they're fooling? The same person who would try to lose weight by eating 1300 consecutive Subway sandwiches? Way to go, Jared. You may have lost what, 800 pounds out of sheer laziness in the kitchen and a

high disposable income, but now we all just hate you for your irritating personality. No one competent enough to cook for themselves and concerned about being healthy would ever opt for paying \$5.99 to get their daily-recommended dose of mashed potato and naked chicken part. I mean, I'm no Martha Crocker, but I hear rice and salsa make a good poor-man's stew. There's one health alternative for you!

Either the Colonel's corpse is going senile in his winter years, or some advertising executive is going to be fired real soon, just because you're losing money doesn't mean you can twist reality into a mangled ball of vague half-truths. If I eat KFC every day for a year and I'm not aware of all the fine print, and thus grow to 400 pounds, you'd better be damn sure I'm going to sue.

So KFC, I'll give you a little tip to increase your revenue: just go down to some alley, pick some guy up from a hobo fight and dress him up in a clown suit in hopes of creeping the public out just enough to be scared into purchasing your product. If it worked for McDonalds, it can work for you too.

OMG, enough with the e-mail forwards



DAVID
BERKRY

e-mail address, since I don't actually get anything useful in my inbox anymore.

But second, and far more important, making spam illegal won't address the fundamental issue here; namely that the problem isn't the unsolicited, junk-mail type spam, but my dumb-ass friends who forward me all those absolutely fucking spectacular "heart-warming" stories of some asspuppet who found the meaning of life, and if we should all love each other, or whatever else they think deserves the subject title, "fwd: OMG this is soooooooooooooo funny!"

I would welcome more of that unsolicited crap if it meant I would never have to read another story about someone who was going to commit suicide until someone actually took the time to pay attention to him.

I would welcome more of that unsolicited crap if it meant I would never have to read another story about someone who was going to commit suicide

until someone actually took the time to pay attention to him. Hell, we could all use a few extra inches on certain parts of our anatomy, low-cost prescription drugs and degrees over the Internet, but I'm fairly certain what we definitely don't need are more sarcastic criticisms of children's photos. And as funny as a half-wit mocking the innocence of six-year-olds is, I would rather look at pictures of "hot college coeds" and make up my own cynical remarks, thank you.

And just in case getting all these delightful pieces of mindshit once isn't enough, I know roughly five or six people who constantly send these things to each other which they then all proceed to forward to me, so I get the same hilarious/heartwarming forwards not just once, but five consecutive times!

Wow, thanks a lot, fucksticks, how else would you like to enrich my life? Do you want to wipe your ass with my pillowcase and then tell me how much I'm going to enjoy the smell while I sleep? Perhaps you should kick me in the testicles and tell me what a valuable life lesson it was.

I see only two possible ways out of this situation. Either the limericks get their act together and ban the insane bullshit that's actually the problem, or I start visiting my "friends'" houses with a tank of gasoline and a lit.

I wonder if they'll let me check my e-mail in prison.

Whееееееееееееее!

Everybody has to have an adventure once in a while, right? Some people choose to become stuffed dinosaurs and fly strange pieces of computer equipment through space. Other people choose to write for our opinion section.

If you have ideas or opinions about just about anything, you can make yourself heard. Not like in space. You can't hear anything there, silly.

THE GATEWAY

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LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Troughton would make a lousy NHL Commissioner

When I first read the title of the article "It's time to put goalies out of work" (20 November), I thought I was bathing in the humour of the Gateway's opinion section. It turns out that it was actually Jake Troughton's sports commentary. The worst part about it was that as I read more and more, I realized he was actually trying to be serious.

I'm sorry, Mr Troughton, but despite what you may think you know about hockey, comparing it to basketball is nothing short of laughable. The thought of removing goaltenders from hockey to increase scores is the most ludicrous thing I've heard all semester.

Now I'm no goalie, but it seems to me that Mr Troughton's comments regarding Highlights shown on TV, which "are filled with examples of excellent shots being unjustly robbed of their chance to bulge the twine," is an oxymoron worth its weight in pucks. You do realize that there are three major types of great plays in hockey, right? Have you ever watched TSN or Sportsnet? There are great goals (which, by the way, are only great because the player pulls a fantastic move to beat the goalie), great hits, and great saves! If you take away goaltenders, you're essentially removing the first and last in that short list.

Consider, if you would, a world without hockey goaltenders. Almost every play would be a long shot from the neutral zone. Deking will be a thing of the past, as players will simply have to look for an opening and fire the puck down the ice into the gaping net. The very flow of the game will be destroyed, resulting in a goal every 30 seconds, and goaltending penalties (since our beloved writer likes to draw comparisons to basketball) being called on defensemen going down to block a "sure thing" goal will dominate boxscores nationwide. Powerplays will be forever meaningless, and short-handed goals will be a dime a dozen. Why not just go all the way and make the nets move from side to side? Or stick them on a pole and rotate them 90 degrees skyward so players will have to flip the puck into the air and make it land in the net? Oh wait! That's basketball!

So Jake, if you really want to burn out goal lamps in every arena across the nation and make guys like Jason Smith average 200 points per season, then by all means, apply for Gary Bettman's job. You'd make a great commish! If not, then please put someone more thoughtful into your next article if you're stumped for ideas and don't make sports commentary a laughing stock.

HAPZY KASSAM
Science III

Good job on "A Tuition Carol," SU

I had the privilege of attending the SU's presentation of "A Tuition Carol" at the Legislature Buildings last week. The presentation was both informative and entertaining. The funding facts that were exposed through the satire were enlightening. Would you please pass along my accolades and congratulations to the cast and crew?

As an activist with the Canadian Union of Public Employees, I find it a continual challenge to involve young workers in social issues that affect us all. The role that the Students' Union plays in the supplemental education of university students is equally as valuable as the education received in the classrooms. The confidence gained through the experience of standing in solidarity and voicing concerns will serve your members well.

Good luck on your endeavours to "Kill Bill 43." Look forward to the coming conference and will encourage CUPE activists to attend.

JUDY BARRY
CUPE National Representative

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@gatewayualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

Conflicting opinions split at Parkland



MELVIN
BACKSTROM

You know there's nothing like a group of like-minded ideologues gathering for the laudable purpose of promoting discussion and debate about important political issues. After all, truth doesn't arise out of the healthy conflict of differing ideas and opinions—no, sir—but from a manufactured, preordained consensus of people nodding their heads, sure of how right they are.

Thanks to the Parkland Institute, a "non-partisan... research network situated within the faculty of arts" here at the U of A, I could have been a part of such an experience during their annual conference two weekends back. Entitled "Challenging Empire: Citizenship, Sovereignty, and Self-Determination," the conference was, in the words of the Executive Director and spokesperson for the Institute, Ricardo Acuña, an opportunity to "broaden the scope of political dialogue and discussion in Alberta, to get people talking. A very, very important part of that is for people to have information and to be stimulated, to engage in those discussions about our political options, our alternatives, what are the issues facing us, how they impact us, all of those things that Albertans haven't been historically good at" (italics added for emphasis).

Now I'm not as Albertan as you get, and find myself being rather offended by Acuña's self-righteous patronization. What he seems to be saying is that because I—and the majority of the population of this province—don't agree with his left-wing ideology, I'm/we're somehow deficient, and need to be cured of my/our ignorance through proper socialist "re-education."

Acuña's pretentious platitudes don't deserve any more attention than I've so far given them, and are not even

the primary reason why I found this conference so farcical, though they are certainly an expression of a hypocritical narrow-mindedness on the part of someone who's ostensibly trying to promote dialogue. It is instead the indirect sponsorship, by the University, of a conference that is little more than a highly-disguised attempt at political propaganda and indoctrination.

The U of A's motto, *Quaecumque Vera*, translates as "whatever things are true" and is a noble expression of the purpose for which this university exists. But on what possible basis can one imagine any truth to be discovered when all the speakers and panelists at this conference share a left-wing point of view? Having Michael Parenti, the renowned defender of Stalinist Russia, open the conference and Naomi Klein, the author of *No Logo*, close it shows as much open-mindedness as one might still find in one of the few remaining socialist paradises (like North Korea or Cuba) that Acuña and the Parkland Institute apparently seem so eager to emulate. This is as ridiculous as the faculty of business sponsoring a conference on current economic issues made up entirely of members of the Fraser Institute and economists from the major banks.

Truly, discussion and debate actually require conflicting opinions, not didactically myopic "we're right" feel-good sessions. It is not, therefore, the viewpoints of either Parenti or Klein that's my problem—though Parenti's apologies for Soviet Communism in his book *Blackshirts and Reds* are pretty sick—but rather it is the ghettoizing effect on intellectual discourse that is the inevitable result of a conference like this and how contradictory this is to the development of critical thinking that is the raison d'être of the faculty of arts and the University in general.

This is, unfortunately, an expression of a tendency in the humanities and social sciences that sees the role of academia in explicitly political literature theory classes that are little more than platforms for the professor's anticapitalist, pro-Marxist/feminist/postmodernist views; political science

classes that are blatantly anti-Israel; the constantly assumed falsity of conservative viewpoints coupled with a seemingly necessary belief in the virtues of "progressive"—usually Marxist in origin—thinking. I don't pay \$4500 a year in tuition to be subjected to all this political indoctrination, but to be a part of an environment where all viewpoints are the subject of reflection and debate. The Parkland Institute, as part of a publicly-funded post-secondary institution, should end its attempts at left-wing indoctrination and promote real debate reflecting a true diversity of political opinions.

THE BURLAP
SACK

Despite all the horrid things happening all over the world, protestors saw fit to mobilize for a very important cause on Saturday: Michael Jackson.

I'm all for freedom of expression, but for shit's sake, get some bloody perspective. The singer isn't fostering away in some hellhole of a jail right now he's out on bail, and judging by his multi-million-dollar shopping spree, he's got more than sufficient resources to pay for his defense. He's not being persecuted for being black, nor for being a child star, nor because he's releasing an album. He's being prosecuted because the DA has gathered a large enough body of legal evidence to arrest and charge him. Unlike so many other suspects, his rights are not being violated.

Maybe a thorough sack pummeling will open these protestors' eyes to just how frivolous their movement is, and how they're helping to erode the credibility that activists for arguably more worthy social justice causes have worked so hard to maintain.

IVA CHEUNG

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.

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SOCIAL
RECOURSE

A short, easy to digest review of the past weekend's events as seen by our Arts and Entertainment writers.

Hot Hot Heat

with Metric and The Unicorns
Red's
Saturday, 22 November



RBS/TS

Teenage hipsters sporting all sorts of mod haircuts were out in full force to squeal their little lungs out this weekend. They came, of course, to see those haphazardly dreamy boys in Hot Hot Heat, but were also treated to the quirky electronic stylings of the Unicorns and the retro-fueled funk of Metric.

Waiving from up-stairs topics like the futility of mortality in "I Don't Want To Die," to Motown-inspired singalongs like "I Was Born A Unicorn," the Unicorns deeply rooted sarcasm came across as much in their analog-laced anthems as it does in their unconventional stage presence. The band played a short, rather unmemorable set before telling the audience they weren't feeling well and vacating the stage.

Metric stormed to the limelight next and put on an impressive set of keyboard-laced funk-rock. Their singer entertained the crowds with her steamy vocals and her karate kicks, which allowed for many not-so-innocent up-skirt glances at her polka-dotted undies.

Finally, Hot Hot Heat took the stage and put on a performance that was met with more screams than a bus full of kindergarten students plummeting off a cliff. Although their set seemed a bit hit-and-miss (it appeared the band just couldn't lose with an audience already in the palm of their hand from the first note).

Ludacris

Agricomic
Friday, 21 November

The Ludacris show on Friday night at the Agricomic was like an antidote to the Heritage Classic influenza that came and went on our city last weekend.

It marked the first time in recent memory that a hip hop artist playing E-town didn't wear an Oilers sweater (Snog Dog), refer to our City of Champions moniker (Run DMC), or fit in lyrics about Wayne Gretzky (Blackalicious). Ludacris instead made reference to Canada's celebrity for having awesome chronic as billows of stinky weed haze floated up to the stage. And in true form, our city's rap connoisseurs packed the house and got ruthlessly wasted, with the majority of the people there passing around mickies and other, more elicit toxins despite the security presence.

Ludacris sealed the deed to the audience's hearts with his encore of the timeless classic *Move Bitch* get out the 'way and managed to whip the entire crowd into a rap-fueled frenzy.

Mysteriously, the Swollen Members didn't turn up for their performance. But since they've been through town more times than Wide Mouth Mason lately, I really didn't seem too tragic that their bus broke down from their last school gymnasium gig in Tofield, or Barrehead or wherever.

PATRICK SUNDERLAND AND HEATHER ADLER
Arts & Entertainment Posse

Expanding the parameters of pop

Winnipeg-bred band Veal sets out to revise the definition of pop music with their blend of surf, alternative and country music

Veal

with Slow Fresh Oil and The Paperbacks
The Sidetrack Café
Thursday, 27 November

MICHAEL POWLIE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With Justin Timberlake aping Bad-era Michael Jackson, Avril's punk-faking and Christina's whore-making, a lot of people have started to wonder whether the days of decent pop music have passed. Truly, media outlets like MuchMusic, with its ever-failing façade of hipness, have become a parade of prettyboys and girls "playing" "music," but there are still some indie bands, like Winnipeg's own Veal, that still think there is hope.

Popular music is a young medium and it's only been around for like 50 years, so there is a lot more chance for evolution," explains Veal frontman Luke Doucet. "There is this passive attitude in music community that it's all been done, but if that's so it's because the definition of pop music is pretty narrow."

A seasoned college-rock pop trio, Veal backs their intention of "expanding the parameters and definition of pop music" with studio work that chameleons through shades of pop, surf, alternative and country. When you start analyzing Veal's shape-shifting musical mindsets, you undoubtedly have to look up their roots as well: Winnipeg. Although the group members' present residences are splattered across our great country, Veal's confluence in Red River country is reflected in their inwardly-facing artistic style.

"Winnipeg is isolated, economically slightly depressed, cold and bleak, which combines for a great community for creating great music and great art," notes Doucet. "There is also an absence of a music industry; that doesn't grow up near rock stars or MuchMusic. If you're 15 and live in Toronto and you go down to Yonge Street, you'll run into Gordie Johnson (of Big Sugar) or a VJ,



NOT JUST TIMBERLAKE Veal wants to experiment with pop music, running-shoe styles.

and I think that adversely affects artistic motives when you see that much hype. I don't think it is all necessarily a bad thing, just that for the music it can detract from the artistic focus of the music."

Maybe Winnipeg's icy winds, floods and snow drifts bigger than Britney's fake breasts forces its inhabitants indoors and ultimately, into their own inner world. But as any Winnipegger coping with their location knows, you have to have a sense of humour to make it in that climate, and that's something Veal uses with zeal in their music and in their attitudes. "Humour has a place in just about everything, and you can use humour as a method of communication. Just because it's a serious subject, it doesn't dictate being serious," Doucet asserts.

One thing Veal is taking seriously, however, is getting the band back on track. Recently the band

has endured several long breaks, as Doucet left to make a solo record and the other two members grazed in other musical pastures.

"It is hard to not forget how good it is with the band. When you are away awhile, life starts moving in other directions and sometimes it looks like it will be too hard to do it, but then we'll get together, have a couple beers, and remember," Doucet states. "We live in different time zones now and in reality, that is not a positive, but we are aware of that and as frustrating as it can be, it is worth it."

While they might not be moving the obscene quantity of CDs that other pop artists are, Veal's hook-laden lines, light-hearted nature and dedication to their music bode well for any hipster looking for some catchy tunes to tap their toes along to.



LUKE DOUCET, THE OTHER WHITE MEAT

On credibility of Junes

"You know Avril is going to win the Junes because the record label is going to support their start, so I guess it is just hard to find integrity in the message behind the award."

On the blessing of winning awards like 2001 West Coast Musician of the Year

"Your profile goes up and people will consider you

for other projects as a producer or a guitar player (but) one medium of music I enjoy is indie rock and people within that community might hold it against me."

On working as a hired studio musician

"There is a strange credibility deficiency towards hired guns. Because really, hired guns are not sexy. They bring forth this image of cheesy, LA musicians."

THE DOWNFALL
OF WESTERN
CIVILIZATION

DAVE
BERRY

A&E
Commentary

According to the Bible, one of the signs of the Apocalypse is that dead people will begin to roam the earthly realm of mortals. Or I think that's one of the signs. Anyway, even if the Bible doesn't say that, I think we can all agree that zombies hitting on our girlfriends would be a bad thing, and that is precisely why this edition of the Downfall of Western Civilization is dedicated to bringing the dead back to life.

Last week, R&B singer Aaliyah won her third consecutive American Music Association award for best female performer in the R&B genre. While this is quite the feat within itself—being as how Aaliyah is about as innovative and talented as a sheep with a neurological disorder—it becomes even more impressive when you con-

sider that this is the same Aaliyah that has been dead since her plane crashed in the Caribbean three years ago. If all it takes is limited ability and being dead to get three consecutive AMA awards, how far off could Britney Spears' tragic death be?

But not even the thrice-awarded Aaliyah can hold a candle to the king of being dead: the legendary, sensitive, overplayed street poet Tupac Shakur. Used to be that only Haley Joel Osmund could see dead people, but with the release of a documentary about his life, *Tupac: Resurrection*, and the subsequent album *Pac*, he has now officially done more creatively since his death in 1996 than he did during the 24 years he was alive and kicking it.

Not that mediocre rap or R&B artists have a monopoly on creative works from beyond the grave. Due to the increased use of stances by major labels these days, artists from Nirvana's Kurt Cobain to more recently deceased legends like Johnny Cash are popping out "new/previously unreleased material" like flowers springing forth from a grave. Why, even John Lennon and George Harrison are having their carcasses exhumed for yet another "re-mastering" of a Beatles album, and this time Paul McCartney's daughter of "Let it Be" which is cleverly titled "Let it Be...Naked," will be featured.

With all these dead people roaming about, the offices of the big labels are starting to bear a striking resemblance to the "Thriller" video, with the exception that Michael Jackson isn't just touching himself these days (he's also touching little boys). But check shots aside, until we learn that The Grateful Dead is just a clever name for a band and not an excellent business practice for selling records, we are doomed to wander the earth with the constant fear that zombie-Tupac will eat our brains, then release a song about it.

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To get this offer go to **www.StudentPhoneStore.com**, your nearest **Travel CUTS** shop, or call **1.866.287.1835**.You can also check out our other exclusive student offers from **Fido, Bell Mobility, or Rogers AT&T.****Our Lady Peace***Our Lady Peace Live DVD*

Sony

www.ourladypeace.com**DAVE BERRY**

Arts & Entertainment Writer

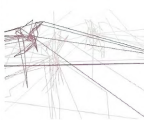
If you still find yourself easily wooed by Raine Maida's overpowering pouty dreaminess, then, sweet cowboy Jesus, is the *Our Lady Peace Live DVD* ever for you. The disc features lots of close-ups of Raine and his bandmates singing, playing guitar and being generally beautiful. What it doesn't include, however, is anything that could convince those of you who aren't in love

with Maida to possibly consider watching it.

The OLP boys put on a live show that is as innovative and exciting as whole wheat bread with the crusts cut off, but without the added bonus of being nutritious. All of your favorite concert clichés, and by implication concert movie clichés, are in full effect here. What little audience banter that exists between songs is straight from the crowd-pleasing handbook. From Maida insulting the collective minds of the crowd by telling them "you guys are loud tonight!" to his deeper conversations about being sad sometimes, there are few memorable live moments captured on this DVD.

Not that you would know they were playing live if you weren't actually watching them do it. From Raine's high-pitched whine on "Superman's Dead," to the mildly muted chorus on "In Repair," virtually every song sounds exactly as it does on their albums. In fact, I'd say the OLP fans who croon along in their cars sing with more intensity and emotion than Maida musters up in concert.

The disc might have been saved if there were any extras that were intriguing, but the special features are the standard collection of "extra" footage, bios and "making of" productions that you'd expect. If you needed further incentive not to buy the disc, it was shot in Edmonton, so any of you big OLP fans already saw all this mediocrity several months ago. Not that that will stop you Raine-lovers out there.

COLDPLAY LIVE 2003**Coldplay***Coldplay Live 2003*

Sony

www.coldplay.com**HEATHER ADLER**

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Sure they sound like Radiohead circa 1995, and, okay, they can't exactly boast flamboyant, Elton John-style performances or Raine Maida-style sex symbol status, but UK darlings Coldplay can certainly perform. This DVD, more than

anything, is truly about showcasing the Brit-pop prodigies and their musical talents, so if you're a fan of the band, get ready to jazz all over yourself.

The bulk of the DVD features live footage from a sold-out performance in a small Sydney venue and even those who may not be the largest Coldplay fans will have to be impressed by the power and presence they deliver off the cuff. The energy of the band's live performance is displayed with interesting cinematography that aids in creating an entertaining depiction of the overall concert atmosphere. The video cuts from sweeping shots of the stage, to intimate close ups the individual members, to quick flashes of the ecstatic audience.

There is also a 40-minute tour diary included, so for those who have already experienced Coldplay live there is something new to take in. The majority of the footage it contains was shot backstage before and after concerts. It features exchanges between the band members as they banter with one another about politics and other interesting tangents. Plus, you also get a CD version of the live concert audio footage, so you can take Coldplay around with you anywhere you go. And let's face it, anyone who is obsessed enough to buy a band's DVD probably wants to have the whole thing in CD, cassette and maybe even eight-track form as well.

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Gothika nonsensical enough to drive you crazy

Gothika

Starring Halle Berry, Robert Downey Jr. and Penelope Cruz
Directed by Matthew Kassowitz
Warner Brothers
www.gothikamovie.com

JORDAN ABEL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

There comes a time in everyone's life when you have to make a major decision that may have drastic repercussions. Like, say, should I go to a sweaty Lister party or suffer through *Gothika*? In my case, I chose *Gothika*; however, I am now wondering if that Lister party may have been a better, and even more frightening, choice.

In *Gothika*, Halle Berry stars as criminal psychologist Miranda Grey. Dr. Grey works in a prison for the criminally insane, treating patients under the direction of her husband Dr. Douglas Grey (Charles S. Dutton), the hospital's administrator, and her good friend Dr. Peter Graham (Robert Downey Jr.). But one fateful, dark and rainy night, Grey takes a detour on the way home and nearly runs over a girl standing in the middle of the road who burst into flames as she touches Grey's face. The next thing

Grey knows, she is locked up in her own hospital, being treated by her own staff, and her husband is dead.

Grey eventually goes on a quest to find out what happened to her after the accident, and at this point, the plot starts to degrade. Besides the spontaneous human combustion and radical coincidences, like the fact Grey is treated in her own institution, the general logistics of how the film plays out are just completely implausible.

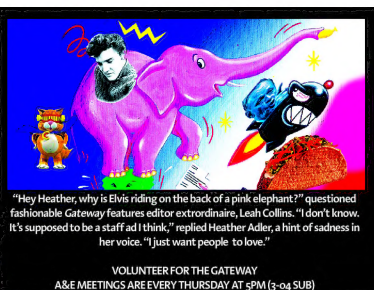
There are characters that appear in scenes for completely melodramatic reasons when they shouldn't logically ever be in that situation at all. For example, in one scene Graham is talking with Grey about her mental stability and the encounter progresses into a gratuitous love scene for no apparent reason. Then there is the fact that everyone surrounding Grey in the institution are actually close friends of hers, which helped the drama, but is totally unrealistic since mental patients aren't normally allowed to be cared for by their peers.

But really, the plot inconsistencies could be overlooked, as the movie relies heavily on the supernatural; however, the holes just get larger and larger as the film drags on until you're sucked into a vacuum of confusion

and pain. In an attempt to prove her innocence, Grey goes on to commit several other crimes, including the murder of another victim. Eventually, she is released for her original crime; however, the fact that her subsequent vigilante crimes go unpunished is nonsensical and confusing.

The only enjoyable part of this movie is the direction and acting, which is superb; the incredible chemistry between Berry and Cruz later in the movie is almost worth the price of admission, and the tension that builds between Robert Downey Jr. and Halle Berry feels very real. The lighting and music perfectly set the tone for the scary scenes, and some of it was just plain creepy.

There is only one surefire way to tell if you're going to like this movie or not and that's your reaction to the line, "I'm not delusional, I'm possessed!" If you find that the line adds depth to the movie and the story then you'll love this movie, but if you find yourself laughing uncontrollably at this and the other 97 plot flaws, then you're probably not going to enjoy *Gothika* at all and should probably just go chant "three Henda!" on the street with a mass of drunken resident students instead.



"Hey Heather, why is Elvis riding on the back of a pink elephant?" questioned fashionable Gateway features editor extraordinaire, Leah Collins. "I don't know. It's supposed to be a staff ad I think," replied Heather Adler, a hint of sadness in her voice. "I just want people to love."

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JOB OPPORTUNITY

JOB TITLE: Lounge Staff, Balmoral Lounge, Saville Sports Centre

DEPARTMENT: Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, Operations

POSITION TYPE: Casual Part-time (~15 hours/week)
Weekdays & weekends, shift work required
Appointments beginning January 1, 2004

SALARY: \$7.98/hour

DUTIES: The Lounge Staff, Balmoral Lounge, Saville Sports Centre under the supervision of the Lounge Supervisor, will complete the daily operational bartending and service duties related to the procedures and policies within the lounge. Candidates must be available to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends.

QUALIFICATIONS: Bartending or server experience is preferred. A familiarity with a full service food & beverage lounge environment would be beneficial. Relevant industry training (i.e., server intervention, T.I.P.S.) should be noted. Applicants should have excellent communication skills and an outgoing and friendly personality. Experience in a membership-based sport facility environment would be an asset. Specifically, a familiarity with Curling, Tennis and Gymnasium sports would be beneficial.

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Foot Field: 11601 68 Avenue
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E-mail: aaron.skillen@ualberta.ca

The South Campus Facilities Manager thanks all applicants but acknowledges that only successful applicants will be contacted for an interview.

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HEATHER ADLER
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Some people collect stamps. Others enjoy the nostalgia in amazing hockey cards. But for the most deranged of society, belly-button lint is the collectable of choice and, of course, the internet is the perfect medium for a virtual museum of it.

This website features jars and jars of tummy lint in a variety of shapes and sizes, which one man has collected since 1984. Sure it's disgusting and, granted, it makes you wonder about his mental stability; however, there is something about the absurdity of it all that just makes it impossible to look away.



HOT HOT HEAT The Victoria hipsters invaded Red's on Saturday night.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Volleyball

The **Golden Bears** (6-0) announced their presence with authority against the Canada West cellar-dwelling Regina Cougars (1-7) over the weekend winning both matches in straight-sets. Friday's matchup ended quickly 25-14, 25-18, 25-15. Bears co-captain Leo Carroll led the team with seven kills. The following night saw the Bears win 25-21, 25-17, 25-15. Outside hitter Nicholas Cundy led the second evening with 13 kills.

Not to be outdone, the **Pandas** (7-1) matched their Golden Bear counterparts with a pair of straight-set victories of their own against the previously undefeated Regina Cougars (4-2). Excitement came near the end of the first match, as the Cougars forced extra points in the third set. Friday night ended with the Pandas winning 25-18, 25-21, 28-26, with Pandas left-side Tawana Wardlaw leading the match with 17 kills. Saturday was equally as successful for the Pandas as they won 25-11, 25-19, 25-21 with Wardlaw and fellow left-side Chelsea Grimsom leading with ten kills apiece.

Basketball

The **Pandas** (1-5) grabbed their first win of the season this weekend during a southern trip to Calgary against the Dinos (3-3). The teams split the weekend series with the Pandas winning the Friday night game 64-56, with guard Diane Smith leading the Pandas scoring with 17 points. Smith led the game in a 66-60 Dinos victory. Smith led the Alberta squad again with 19 points.

The **Golden Bears** (3-3) also split their series against the Calgary Dinos (4-2) this weekend. The Bears won the Friday night game 96-81 with Bears veteran guard Phil Scherer leading the team with 29 points. Saturday was the Dinos night to shine, as they defeated the Bears 84-76. Post Phil Sudol notched a team-leading 27 points despite the Bears loss.

Hockey

The **Golden Bears** (11-0-1) were brought back to earth with their first non-win of the season at the hands of the Regina Cougars (3-9-2). Ending the Bears' ten-game winning streak, the Cougars stole a tie at home, 3-3. Alberta scorers in the draw were winger Ryan Wade, centre Justin Wallin, and defenceman Jeff Zorn. Rebounding from the tie, the Bears won the Saturday night matchup 4-0. Wade was the first star of the game with a hat trick, while forward Kevin Marsh added a goal of his own.

Continuing their Canada West dominance while on the road, the **Pandas** (10-0) extended their winning streak to ten games, sweeping the last-place Manitoba Bisons (1-7). Friday night's game wasn't even close, with the Pandas winning 8-1. Forward Danielle Bourgeois scored four goals in the game, with blueliner Delaney Collins scoring two, and forwards Lindsey McAlpine and Adrienne Vandezalm scoring one apiece. The Pandas were more merciful on Saturday night, winning 4-1. McAlpine scored two, while Bourgeois and forward Kristen Hagg each scored one.



FILE PHOTO: NICK WIER

FIVE GOALS Pandas forward Danielle Bourgeois.

Volleyball Bears lay smackdown on Regina

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Writer

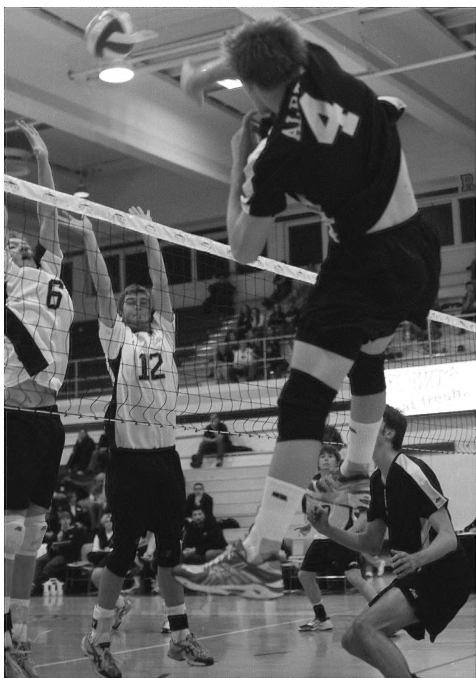
An upset of previously second-ranked Manitoba gave the University of Regina Cougars both a spot in the CIS volleyball top ten and a false sense of hope heading into this weekend's match up against the Bears. Unsurprisingly, the Bears showed the Cougars exactly what a number one team looks like, as they swept the series to move to 6-0 within their conference and 18-3 on the season overall.

The Bears were undaunted by any possibilities of a Regina upset, instead turning the tables on the Cougars early, who struggled all weekend to hit past the Bear's defense. Bears standouts Leo Carroll, Nicholas Cundy, and Adam Kaminski proved too big and too strong on the front row for anything Regina threw at them. "I think we played pretty consistently," said Carroll of the front row play. "We didn't have too many errors and I think we pressured them quite a bit. They seemed tentative and they just didn't answer back."

Pleased with his team's play, Golden Bears head coach Terry Danyluk said the team's recent focus on defensive aspects during practices made all the difference. "I thought we blocked really well. The preparation that the guys made for Regina's hitting tendencies were spot on, and I thought that showed," said Danyluk.

The Bears, for the most part, seemed as though they could do no wrong against the Cougars. Former Canadian National Team member Danyluk praised the Bears overall play in both the front and the back row. "Our hitting efficiency was high and I thought we served really well, and that's something that has to be a part of our game against every team we have to play," said Danyluk.

The lone Albertan on the Cougars' roster, Blake Proudfoot of Chinook, saw a lot of room for improvement in his team's performance. "We didn't pass very well and that was a big thing for us. [The Bears] served really well, and that put us in trouble. It just came down to passing, and we didn't put the ball away when we had to," said a defeated Proudfoot. After the Cougars morale-boosting victory over Manitoba, Proudfoot thought the team came out flat for the Bears, but gave credit where he thought it was due. "They're a good team, they're number one in the country, but we're good enough to come out and give these guys a



LEAHNE FONG

OVER THE TOP Bears power Aaron Schulha (4) smashes the ball over the Regina front-line.

ruin," said the 6'5" middle. "We came off a big game last weekend and we just didn't show up this time."

The Bears take to the road this coming weekend to play the third-ranked Bisons, then

will see a break in action for some all-too-quickly approaching exams and time off for the Christmas holidays. They'll next see action in the Saskatchewan Huskies tournament early in the new year.

Pandas take two matches from visiting Cougars

Back-to-back victories against Regina push Alberta back to the top of CIS volleyball rankings

MIKOLAJ MOSS
Sports Writer

Despite the results on the scoreboard, Friday night's Pandas volleyball matchup against the Regina Cougars lived up to its billing. The Pandas straight-set victory finished 25-18, 25-21, and 28-26 but not without a thrilling finish, as the visiting Cougars forced an extra-point showdown in the third set. Saturday night proved easier for the Pandas, as they dethroned the Cougs 25-11, 25-18, and 25-21.

Just as the Main Gym crowd began believing the second-ranked Cougars had left their "A" game at home, an extra-point, two-point victory and eventual match win for the Pandas rewarded the home crowd with late dramatics. After a 4-4 tie began the set, former Pandas assistant coach and now Cougars coach Melanie Sanford subbed out setters. The Cougars went on to lead the set for a string of 35 points, which almost made up for leading for only one point combined in the first two sets.

Down as much as five points early on, the relentless Pandas fought back to a 23-22 score, trading points until the end. After four match points and three late timeouts between the two clubs, the game ended on the strong play at the net that won the Pandas the first two sets.

With stats that would make an NHL goalien-

der envious, the Pandas front line stopped over 90 per cent of Regina's kills. The combination of captain Pamela Parker, Tamara Wardlaw and Melanie Masson presented the united front for the first set in which the aggressive Pandas took a 12-3 lead to start and coasted to the seven point win by set's end.

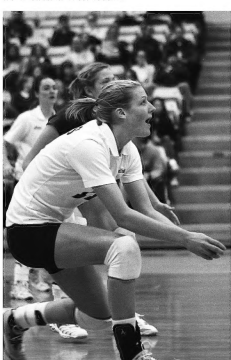
Those first three Cougars points and many in the opening set could be attributed to the few errors made by Panda hitting Wardlaw, the kills leader on the season (and had 17 and ten on the weekend, respectively), was adamant about home court pride. "You come into our gym, we're going to make you pay," said Wardlaw. The disciplined power attacker modestly added, "We're all putting the package together." Wardlaw attributes her developing into an all-around player to devoting more practice time to the other skills.

"I thought we were a little sloppy up until the thirteenth point for them. We started playing with a little more urgency," said Pandas coach Laurie Eisler about the tense third set.

Playing against former colleague Sanford, Eisler was content with the added competitive nature. "[We've] both very competitive, so once [the first ball is served], you kind of forget about [the previous association], and afterwards we can have a beer," said Eisler.

The previously 4-0 Cougars dropped below the Pandas in the national rankings, while those

amiable Pandas will try to continue their seven-game win streak, heading into Simon Fraser with a 7-1 Canada West record.



NICK WIER

GET SET Pandas middle Amanda Atkinson.

Outdoor game lives up to hype



ERIN
LOXAM

Sports
Commentary

Last Friday, I accepted the assignment of reporting my experience at the Heritage Classic. I thought it would be easy—just spout off catch phrases that have been ingrained into us for the past weeks of Edmonton mass media like “once in a lifetime,” “unforgettable experience,” and “the biggest thing in hockey since they invented the puck.” Was I ever wrong.

The truth is, as I shuffled my snow-pants out of Commonwealth Stadium on Saturday night, I realized that the event was more than a cliché. The experience is hard for me to describe in words because it was such an overwhelming feeling. Though the weather gods sent us their worst, the atmosphere was anything but cold.

Although the windchill only got the temperature down to -28C, I'm sure I would've braved much colder weather to be there. I can't say the same of

the many folks who ditched out half-way through the Oilers game. I was astounded by the idleness of people wearing jeans, running shoes, those cheap mitts where the fingers are covered by a flap, and the streaker who wore only a shirt and one sock. No major event is without its streaker, but usually it's not so cold that you can't tell the streaker's gender.

And it was a major event despite all the naysayers. As a multicultural city too young to have a half decent heritage, we rally around sports achievements and events. The largest influx into Edmonton was in the late 1970s. People new to the area related to a new hockey team and the connection has remained through glorious and dismal years, and into the 21st century. Oilers hockey has thrilled crowds for the last 25 years and being reminded of that history on Saturday night was awe-inspiring.

Despite being a rabid Oilers fan, I didn't jump on the bandwagon until the Petr Klima years of the early '90s. In fact, as many old-school Oilers fans got off the wagon, I jumped on and followed through the lean years of Oilers hockey (the proverbial “sucking as bad as the Flames”

years). The folklore of Stanley Cup-winning hockey had never been a reality to me until Saturday night. Though they're old and moldy, the heroes which streets are named after and records are held by played a game, and I was grateful to see them. Sure, half the guys are fat and noticeably out of shape, but the smiles on their faces as they looked to the crowd of almost 60 000 could be seen from my seat in row 27.

Almost forgotten on such a special day was an actual NHL hockey game. Bettle ice conditions forced a game delay and a pre-empted “singing” by Paulina Gretzky. Fans at home witnessed a skinny 14-year-old belting out a pop hit, but in the stadium we were privy to a five-minute slide show from the afternoon's activities. We could already see the history unfolding before our eyes.

Minutes later, the first outdoor NHL game took place. We sat back in our seats and watched our favorite Oilers players struggle with the ice more than their competition. Though it counted in the standings as just another loss, the fans couldn't help but feel like they'd won something. They had won an “unforgettable experience.”



WINTER WONDERLAND Commonwealth Stadium's new look brought to you by the good people of the NHL.

Group II free agents digging own graves



ANDREW
TOUGAS

Sports
Commentary

As Mike Comrie's contractual holdout drags on, it's surprising the NHLPA hasn't uttered the taboo word, “collusion.” Even as players like Ottawa's Martin Havlat and Minnesota's Marion Gaborik and Pascal Dupuis endured similar stalemates, Comrie and his ilk are tempted to believe that the owners are colluding against the players when it comes to restricted free agency, by refusing to put up the big bucks players are demanding. But the players themselves are more to blame than a phantom agreement among owners to pay players less money before the impending collective bargaining agreement renewal set for 2005.

It was once common for players to figure that since they weren't getting offers, it must be because the owners were busy making secret pacts in back rooms. Since 1995, when the new CBA introduced the rules on group II restricted free agents which were made in exchange for players not having to accept a salary cap, players have been confused as to how the rules work.

Though the restricted free agency rules have confused the players, they seem more concerned with who's to blame when they're left on the sidelines, sans contracts. Looking back at Shayne Corson, the former Oilers grinder whose contract set the group II precedent, much of the players' frustrations can be blamed on him.

Corson's first post-CBA contract found a loophole that permitted Canadian teams to match offers made to their players by American teams in wimpy Canadian dollars, with the league paying the difference. Although the Oilers passed on matching Corson's contract, the Winnipeg Jets utilized it to prevent their captain Keith Tkachuk from becoming a Chicago Blackhawks.

To circumvent this ugly problem, teams realized that if they paid a large sum of cash up front, the Canadian teams wouldn't be able to match them. Thus, for an owner to now make a similar offer to Mike Comrie, it would require a considerable financial risk.

Case in point: after Jarome Iginla's Art Ross-winning 2002 year, he signed a two-year deal for \$13 million US. An American team needed to offer nearly \$20 million just to match this amount just to make up for the currency differential; a lot of money for a guy they'd have to re-sign only two years later. Signing Iginla to a longer deal entails

certain risk as to whether this player actually honours his contract or not.

Also hurting Comrie's chance for a rival offer is that of the five players who've received group II contract offers (Corson, Tkachuk, Joe Sakic, Sergei Fedorov, and Chris Gratton), only one has actually played to his pay. Joe Sakic's big 1997 contract didn't deter him from putting up good numbers. In contrast, teams holding Gratton's and Fedorov's contracts didn't need to worry about future holdouts because neither actually performed that well. Gratton hasn't come close to his form that prompted the Philadelphia Flyers to sign him in the summer of 1997 and Fedorov saved his best year of his contract (albeit a shadow of his 1994 Hart trophy season) for his last.

In every bureaucracy there's a certain residue that stinks. Rules serving some but not others is a common complaint. Comrie and his agent, Rich Winter, can complain about this injustice if they want, but their gripe is more with the players whose performances gave little justification for an NHL team to make group II offers. Hockey may well be a business, but the pure greed, incompetence, and laziness displayed by the previous five restricted free agents (Sakic excluded) have only hurt the opportunities for the Edmonton local Comrie, who just wants to play hockey.

Do you know what game this is?

If you said “hockey,” then you're not a complete loss. If you said “NHL ‘95,” then you need to get up here and write for sports. Now Who knows, we might even let you skate blindly all over the place surrounded by a giant glowing star. It's tricky at first, but you pick it up pretty quick.

Just try not to trip on all those giant numbers following you around, okay?



THE GATEWAY

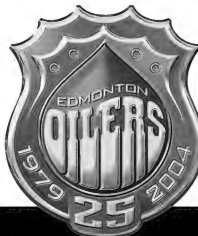
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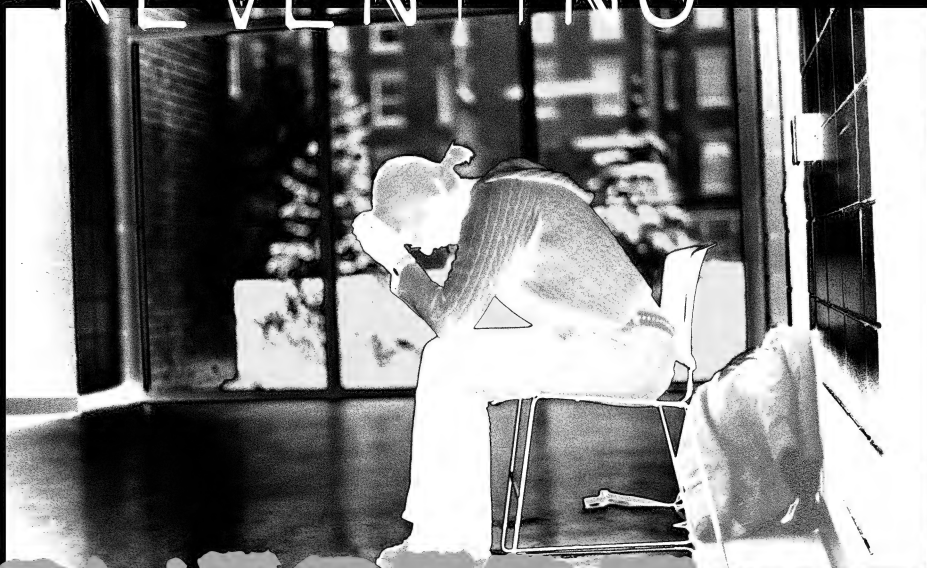
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PREVENTING



SUICIDE

FINDING SUPPORT ON THE GRIEF JOURNEY

Suicide is one of the most stigmatized acts in our society.

But the more stigmatized an act becomes, the less people are willing to talk openly about it, and the media stays away from covering the topic to avoid normalizing it. The fear, of course, is that reports on high profile suicides such as Kurt Cobain's death in 1994 may provoke imitators, and that fear may carry some weight: suicide rates tend to increase noticeably after such events and a study published by the Canadian Psychiatric Association in 2002 showed intense media coverage of suicide causes an increase in suicidal behaviour (for example, one month after Marilyn Monroe's suicide, American suicide rates increased twelve per cent).

As people become afraid to talk about suicide, the more misconceptions surround it as a result. But suicide is a problem that must not be avoided. From 1998-2002, there were an average of 14.7 suicides per 100 000 people living in Alberta, or approximately 450 a year. For people aged 20-24, that rate climbed to 17.8 suicides per 100 000, or approximately 550 a year. If that seems high to you, you're right. According to the Canadian Centre for Suicide Prevention, the only province that had a suicide rate higher than Alberta was Québec.

Words: Kristine Duram

Photo Illustrations:

**Jesse Whitehead
and Shawn Benbow**

These numbers prove that it is not at all uncommon to have suicidal thoughts, especially for many young people who struggle with school on top of other stresses. But many students aren't aware of the many options available to them. Here are just four of the many resources available to University of Alberta students who are on the verge of crisis or who just need someone to talk to.

STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES

As well as offering immediate one-time crisis counseling like that provided at the Distress Centre, Student Counseling Services provides students with up to twelve free confidential counseling sessions per academic year from chartered psychologists.

According to director Dr Howard Saslove, the service will help you deal with any "day-to-day problems with functioning and stress." This can include anything from problems with school and relationships to suicide.

Often, psychologists will refer students to the Student Health Centre, whether they're suicidal or not.

"Physical health isn't exactly a top priority for people from 18–25, if I can generalize. So things like lack of sleep, substance abuse, bad eating habits, and no exercise can have a huge impact on your mental health. So someone might be exhausted all the time and it turns out all they needed was to have some blood work done," explained Saslove.

Saslove sees suicide prevention as an important aspect of the services provided by Student Counselling Services. "Suicide prevention should be going on and I would argue is going on whenever you help someone with a less serious problem. So I'd say suicide prevention in a way is occurring whenever we help someone with almost anything, so that's the good news," he said.

"The bad news is that a lot of the time people don't want to reach out for help. They're ashamed or they're isolated, or a lot of people don't even know that we exist or what other services are available. There's a misconception that if you go for help, that means you're weak. To me, if you reach out for help, that means you're courageous."

Saslove encouraged students to not be afraid to reach out to someone they think might be in trouble. "It doesn't take a lot," he said. "One of the big myths surrounding suicide is if you ask someone if they're suicidal, it will make them suicidal. Oftentimes, all these people are looking for is someone to talk to."

For more information on Student Counselling Services, visit them at 2-600 SUB or go to www.ualberta.ca/uscs/.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION

The U of A Chaplains' Association is an interfaith association for Christian, Islamic, and Jewish students on campus. They work to minister to the needs of their respective faith communities and the campus as a whole.

According to Lutheran chaplain Richard Reimer, the sense of community provided by the chaplains is the most important part of their service.

"I think one of the things we provide is a pastoral presence, particularly for people who are connected to religion," he said. "Knowing that we're here on campus, it provides a kind of safety net for someone who's struggling. I think community itself is a preventative measure. If people are joining together with their peers, you're creating the help that's needed to prevent people from doing something really self-destructive."

Presbyterian chaplain Oceanna Hall stresses that you don't have to be religious to come speak to a chaplain about your problems. "Although we are from different religious denominations, we are here for all students. Each of us has a spiritual component, and I think one of the things chaplains do best is listen, and sometimes that's what people need: they need to be able to tell their stories and speak their narratives."

Reimer assured students that chaplains are not going to "beat you over the head" with their personal religious beliefs.

"There are many stereotypes about religion out there, and the biggest one is that all we're here to do is convert people to our point of view or our doctrine," he said. "It's often a battle to overcome these stereotypes, but fortunately there are people who are willing to put them aside and find a welcome."

Hall agreed, adding that the chaplains are not necessarily here to talk to you about God, but rather to just listen to what you have to say, no matter what your background or religious denomination.

For more information on the University of Alberta Chaplains' Association, visit www.ualberta.ca/uaca/ or drop by the Chaplain's House in HUB across from the International Centre or the general office in the basement of SUB.

THE SUPPORT NETWORK

The Support Network is an Edmonton organization with myriad resources designed to provide information and help to the community about a wide variety of issues.

"Our mission statement is to strengthen individuals and families in the community, especially those who are experiencing crisis or distress, through support, information, and education," explained Marilyn Doyle, coordinator of suicide prevention.

One of the most important resources provided by the Support Network is the Distress Line, a 24-hour call-in centre where people can speak to a trained volunteer about anything causing them stress. According to Doyle, about 20 per cent of the calls received are related to suicide.

"Calls relating to suicide can either be from someone who's suicidal themselves or from someone who wants to know a bit more about how to support somebody in their life who is suicidal. So if they suspect or know that a family member or friend is suicidal, they call and get some ideas about how to help them," explained Doyle.

The network also provides clients with a walk-in counseling centre, an online crisis chat service, a public education department that provides workshops and training for professionals, a training program for volunteers, a database of other local services ranging from legal services to daycare, and a suicide bereavement program.

"The suicide bereavement program is the only program in the Capital Health region for someone who's lost someone to suicide," said Doyle. "So we do everything from immediate post-event debriefing right through to providing information to people about suicide grief so they know what they're going through. We also have support groups where people can travel the grief journey together."

The Support Network operates with the help of both professionals and trained volunteers. For more information on the Support Network, please visit www.thesupportnetwork.com. To reach the Distress Line, phone 482-HELP.

THE STUDENT DISTRESS CENTRE

The Student Distress Centre, located in the basement of the Students' Union Building, provides both a crisis line and a walk-in centre for students seeking immediate help.

"Here, students can actually come in one-on-one if they don't want to access the centre by calling," explained Heather Lunde, director of the centre. "I found it was a very different experience, because when you're face-to-face with someone, it's a lot more personal and that much more real. Generally, we relate very well to students here, because we're all students ourselves."

All staff members of the Student Distress Centre are volunteers (each volunteer is required to undergo a rigorous 60 hours of training and evaluations at the Support Network, including classroom work and role-playing). All volunteers start out on the Distress Line.

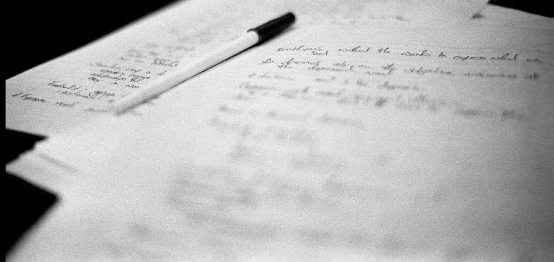
According to Lunde, a large portion of issues dealt with at the Distress Centre are related to school. "Last year, the number one issue that brought someone to the centre had to do with school," she said. "Number two was relationship issues, and number three was issues related to suicide, either first-party or third-party."

When dealing with first-party suicide, Lunde explained that the main tool volunteers are trained to use is risk assessment. "The first thing to find out is if they have formulated a plan. If they've thought about it so much that they know when they want to do it, they are considered high-risk. We also talk about their prior experiences with suicide. If someone has lost someone in their life to suicide that also puts them at higher risk."

If a client is considered very high-risk, they may be referred to the consent Mobile Mental Health Crisis Team or taken to the hospital with their consent. However, the most important thing to do in any suicidal situation is help the person find the inner resources necessary to help them get through the crisis, explains Lunde.

"We don't give advice; we've met these people one time, so they're going to know their situation the best," she explained. "We're just giving them the opportunity to explore the internal resources they have to make it through."

For more information on the Student Distress Centre, drop by the office in the basement of SUB (030-N SUB) or visit www.su.ualberta.ca/su/businesses_and_services/student_distress_centre. To chat with a trained volunteer, phone 482-HELP.



CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please call
Information Services at 492-4212

FOR RENT

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FOR SALE

Large, colourful, lightly used love seat. FREE. We just need you to take it away. Email: placoz@shaw.ca

New Queen/King Mattress Box Sets, Extra Thick Orthopedic Double Pillowtop. Cost King \$1800, Sacrifice \$595. Cost Queen \$1000, Sacrifice \$345. Can Deliver. 722-6613.

2000 Pontiac Firefly clone hatchback, Canadian-made, 4-cylinder, 50 mpg, Auto, air, inspected, new all-season tires, \$8500 obo. 459-0813.

New Queen/King Mattress Box Sets, Extra Thick Orthopedic Double Pillowtop. Cost King \$1800, Sacrifice \$550. Cost Queen \$1000, Sacrifice \$295. Free Delivery 453-3755.

Queen size pillow top mattress set, brand new, still in plastic, must sacrifice \$275.00. Can deliver, phone: 319-5185.

WANTED

Vancouver for Xmas: 1 or 2 passengers wanted to share gas, to and from. Call David @ 430-7455.

Reliable and caring dog/house sitter. For 14 through 30 December 14. Previous experience required. Call Odile at 492-6771.

SERVICES

Tutorial help for term papers and/or English courses. Reasonable rates. 907-9685. typinguq, offers typing services to meet all your needs. Call Sandra @ 456-3175 or typinguq@shaw.ca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Library Craft Sale November 27-28, 2003, 9:30am to 3pm. Professors Emeriti Reading Room 3-05, Cameron Library. Free Admission! Door Prizes.

EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

Part time child care workers required ASAP for nonprofit school age child care program. Available shifts 7am to 9:10am, or 2:30pm to 6pm. Phone Dorothy at 435-4532.

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THREE LINES FOR A TOONIE

Kyle, this one's for you, "Satan666 version 2.0" (Tale that 'green figure'!). David Berry you're my hero!

Dear Levin: Your love is like a rushing stream filled with spawning salmon. Best wishes your pal

Levin's Skip=

ASS 2 ASS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

More excerpts from the comments section of the Gateway Blog, this time in response to a post about writing a WWII movie with all the useless knowledge accrued when researching a paper:

A thesis on any subject can be created by using the word "flagship". Also, the Libs are excellent sources of both thesis statements and your current position. Also, I can't find my cat. I think he froze under the deck. Posted by Sarah.

Band of Brothers isn't a movie but it's got everything you could write a history paper on... except see Posted by Ross

Hey luckface, you up for a game of Alchemy? Or are you tired of looking pathetic? Posted by Bank-Grand Wizard

Hey "Sexy" Dave, I saw you at Red's Saturday night, presumably for the Hot Hot Heat show. Which begs the question: did you miss the last period of the Oly-Habs outdoor game? "gasp" Posted by The Unicorns superfan.

I indeed did miss the last period of the Oilers Habs outdoor game. Not like it matters. People are talking like it was one of the great hockey moments, up there with the '72 series and our gold medal last year, but let's face facts, it was a hugely disappointing alumni game followed by a semi-entertaining league game. Whoopee! <http://www.gtwavejournal.ca/health/football.html>



SHAWN BENSON

ASTRONO WATCH

Keeping an eye on the sky...

Well, I'm back in the city. After experiencing the wonders of cyclotrons and muon beams, coming back here wasn't so hot. Especially since it was clear, sunny and green in Van, and cold, grey and cloudy here. Oh well, I'd better make the best of it, 'cause it's gonna last for another four months at least.

Thirty minutes after sunset tonight, you'll be able to see a triad of stellar objects. Look to the southwest, just above the horizon to see the Moon, Venus and Mercury. Venus will be the very bright object just to the right of the thin crescent Moon. Mercury is to the far lower right of Venus and is a bit fainter.

If you guys want to see the brightest star in the sky, look to the southeast at about 10pm this week. Sirius, a huge blue-white star, will be twinkling to the lower left of the constellation Orion.

Also, if it's clear this week, be on the lookout for some aurora. That huge sunspot group that caused all those problems in early November is back, and there is a chance for some large flares.

If you guys have anything that you'd like to ask me, or anything you'd like to see in this column, please email me at: astronowatchrules@yycos.com.

I'm lonely.

No, silly. It's not astrology; it's astronomy. *AstronoWatch* is a weekly feature published every Tuesday. Our resident astronomer, *Kati Kovacs*, sets the stage for the cosmos, and invites you up to the Campus Observatory every Thursday evening at 8pm. Just take the elevator in the Physics Building up to the sixth floor, and then the stairs up to the seventh floor. Walk out onto the roof and check out the view with the University's telescopes. Listen to Kati giving the *AstronoWatch* lowdown every week on CJSR. Woot!

HAPPY BOB KNOWS

Campus events and more...

The U of A Women's Centre presents Fertility Awareness, Natural Birth Control and Reproductive Self Knowledge. This workshop is designed to give you the basics about fertility awareness. It's a simple effective way for a woman to identify her body's fertile signs and most probable times of conception, and assess her reproductive health. All genders welcome. 492-2755 for more info.

The Coalition Against War and Racism and APRIG presents a reading on security certificates, racism and Canadian immigration policy. The reading will focus on the question of security certificates (what they are, cases of detentions and deportations in Canada, post 9-11 concerns, etcetera) and racism in Canadian immigration policy. The literature is available at APRIG. Come by the APRIG office (911 HUB Mall) on 27 November at 4pm if you want to join in.

The Academic Support Centre presents several seminars over the course of the next week. Make Better Use of Your Money on 26 November from 2pm to 3pm for \$20. Exam Strategies on 29 November from 1pm to 3pm for \$30. How to Improve Your Study Time on 2 December from 2pm to 3pm for \$20. Exam Writing Tips on 2 December from 11:30am to 12pm for \$5. Assess Your Learning Strengths on 3 December for \$20. For more information about any of these seminars or to pre-register come by 2725 SUB or call the Academic Support Centre at 492-2682.

HappyBobKnows is a service provided by Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. HBK is only printed in the Tuesday editions of the Gateway each week. HBK does not publish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. Incomplete forms will not be submitted. Submissions will print for one issue only. Entry deadline is 3pm Fridays (submit your entry on the Friday before the issue you wish it to appear in). Submit to the Gateway Offices (3-04, third floor SUB) or fax to 492-6665.

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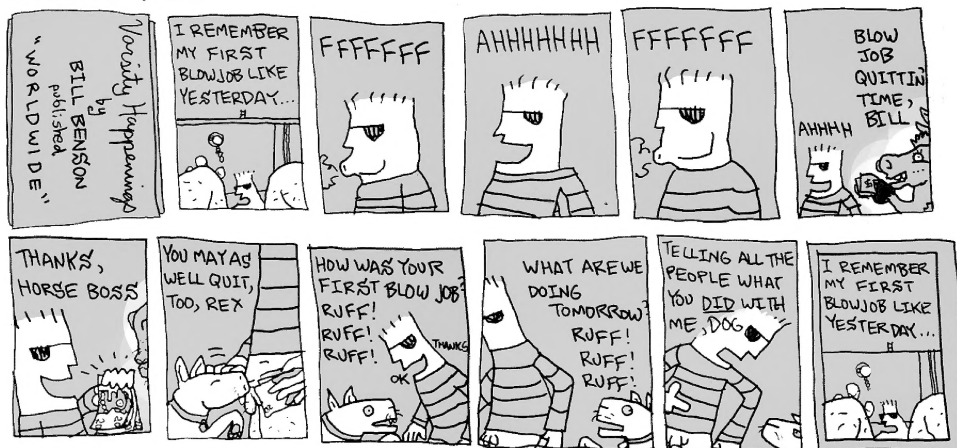


Between November 18 and December 3, 2003, pay with your ONEcard to be automatically entered to win a hot lunch for a term!*



*For details, please visit the ONEcard website (onecard.ualberta.ca) or L'Express in SUB.

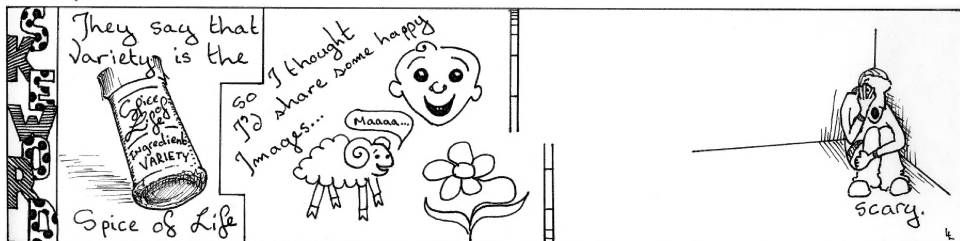
VARSITY HAPPENINGS by Bill Benson



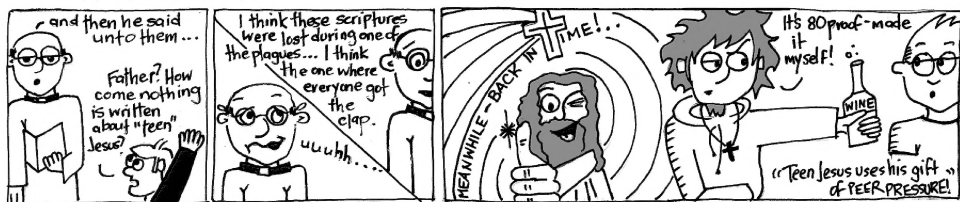
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